

REMARKS

I. Summary of Office Action

Claims 1-75 are pending in the above-identified patent application.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-75 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-58, 59, 61, 62, 67, 69, and 70 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington et al. U.S. patent No. 6,161,099 (hereinafter "Harrington"). In addition, claims 60, 63-66, 68, and 71-75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harrington.

II. Applicants' Response to Examiner's Rejections

Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 4, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 23-26, 30, 31, 33, 40, 43, 44, 46, 52-55, 59, 61-63, 65-67, 69-71, and 73-75 to more particularly define the invention. The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

III. The Rejection of Claims 1-75 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejects claims 1-75 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner contends that the term "two-sided market" used in applicants' claims in the phrase "two-sided market trading command" is indefinite. Applicants strongly disagree. Applicants believe the claimed "two-sided market trading command" phrase is definite. Nevertheless, in order to advance prosecution, applicants have amended the claims to more particularly define the "two-sided market trading command" as

comprising "a bid command to buy" and "an offer command to sell."

In view of the foregoing, claims 1-75 should be found to be definite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claims 1-75 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

IV. The Rejection of Claims 1-13 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejects claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 1

Applicants' invention, as defined by amended claim 1, is directed to a method of submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving a bid command from a trader to buy a first size of an item; generating an offer value for which a second size of the item is to be sold based on the bid command; and submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of the trader. The two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy the first size of the item and an offer command to sell the second size of the item, where the offer command is based on the offer value. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 1 has been amended to define "generating an offer value for which a second size of the item is to be sold based on the bid command [to buy a first size of the item]." As described in applicants' specification, "[f]or example, if a trader enters a bid price, the trader may indicate

to submit a bid and offer order for a particular item, where the offer price may be automatically generated from the bid price and the pre-set spread amount" (page 16, lines 26-30). In contrast, Harrington describes conducting an auction over electronic networks. The auctioneer maintains a website that may be accessed by users. A user participates in the auction by submitting bids through the auction system, which provides functions such as bid preparation and bid verification. At the end of the auction, the auctioneer is able to review bidding history, determine the winner, and communicate results of the auction to the winner and other users. Nowhere does Harrington show or suggest the generation of "an offer value for which a . . . size of the item is to be sold based on the bid command," as defined by applicants' claim 1.

The Examiner contends that Harrington shows the submission of an offer value (e.g., a price) based on the bid command, citing col. 8, line 65 to col. 9, line 11 of Harrington as support. Applicants respectfully submit that the cited text only shows the preparation and submission of a bid to buy a municipal bond, an action that happens entirely on the buyer's side. Harrington does not show the generation of an offer value for which a size of the item is to be sold based on the bid command, as defined by applicants' amended claim 1. In fact, nowhere does Harrington explicitly show the generation of an offer value for which a size of an item is to be sold, either on its own or based on a bid. Instead, the auctioneer simply provides a Notice of Sale and a Preliminary Offering Statement, and maintains a website describing the bonds that can be purchased through auction (col. 6, lines 26-52).

The Examiner also contends that Harrington shows the generation of an offer based on a bid command when a trader revises an offer after the original offer was insufficient,

citing FIG. 12 as support. Again, applicants respectfully submit that the term "offer value," as used in amended independent claim 1, refers specifically to a value "for which a . . . size of [an] item is to be sold," as is commonly understood by a person of ordinary skill in the art and as used throughout the specification. In other words, the price of a bid command cannot be an offer value, as defined in applicants' claim 1. Therefore, Harrington simply shows the revision of a bid price based on the rejection of an original bid, not the generation of an offer value for which a size of an item is to be sold based on a bid command, as defined by amended claim 1.

Applicants' amended independent claim 1 also defines "submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of the trader, wherein the two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy the first size of the item and an offer command to sell the second size of the item." The Examiner contends that this limitation of applicants' claim 1 is shown by the submission of a single bid command, since the common definition of "offer" can be synonymous with a "bid." Applicants respectfully disagree. First, applicants' amended independent claim 1 defines the submission of two commands, a bid command and an offer command, which is not shown by the submission of a single bid command. Second, applicants' amended independent claim 1 explicitly states that the bid command is on the buyer's side of a transaction, while the offer command is on the seller's side of a transaction. The text and figures of Harrington cited by the Examiner all relate to submitting a bid or bids on behalf of a buyer. Nowhere does Harrington show or suggest "submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of the trader, wherein the two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy the first size of the

item and an offer command to sell the second size of the item," as defined by applicants' amended independent claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, claim 1 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 1 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 2-13

As demonstrated above, claim 1 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 2-13 should also be found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 1, from which dependent claims 2-13 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 2-13 should be withdrawn.

V. The Rejection of Claims 14-25 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejects claims 14-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 14

Applicants' invention, as defined by amended claim 14, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving a submission of a bid command from a trader to buy a first size of an item via a first interface; generating an offer value for which a second size of the item is to be sold based on the bid command; presenting a second interface that contains information relating to the submission of the two-sided market trading command; and submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of the trader. The two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy the first size of the item and an offer command to sell the second size of the

item, where the offer command is based on the offer value. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 14. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 14 defines "generating an offer value for which a second size of the item is to be sold based on the bid command." As described in Section IV. A. above, Harrington neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 14.

In addition, applicants' claim 14 defines "presenting a second interface that contains information relating to the submission of the two-sided market trading command, wherein the two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy the first size of the item and an offer command to sell the second size of the item." For example, "to facilitate two-sided trading, dialog window 300 [includes] a bid price entry field 324, ... an offer price entry field 326, ... a bid size entry field 329, ... [and] an offer size entry field 331" (page 16, lines 16-22). Although Harrington does show presentation of a second screen (FIG. 13), the information on that screen relates to a bid command to buy a bond, not a two-sided market trading command comprising both a bid command to buy and an offer command to sell. Thus, nowhere does Harrington show or suggest presenting a second interface containing information relating to a submission of a two-sided market trading command, where the two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy a first size of an item and an offer command to sell a second size of the item, as defined by applicants' claim 14.

Applicants' claim 14 also defines "submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of the trader," where the two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy the first size of the item and an offer command to sell the second size of the item. As described in Section IV. A.

above, Harrington only shows the submission of bid commands for a user of the auction system, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 14.

In view of the foregoing, claim 14 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 14 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 15-25

As demonstrated above, claim 14 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 15-25 should also be found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 14, from which dependent claims 15-25 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 15-25 should be withdrawn.

VI. The Rejection of Claims 26-29 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejects claims 26-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 26

Applicants' invention, as defined by claim 26, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving data related to a tradable item data display; presenting an interactive data display based at least in part on the tradable item data display; receiving a selection of an item in the interactive data display that corresponds to a bid command to buy a first size of an item; generating an offer value for which a second size of the item is to be sold based on the bid command; and submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of the trader. The two-sided market trading

command comprises the bid command to buy a first size of the item and an offer command to sell a second size of the item, where the offer command is based on the offer value. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 26. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 26 defines "generating an offer value for which a second size of the item is to be sold based on the bid command." As described in Section IV. A. above, Harrington neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 26.

Applicants' claim 26 also defines "submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of a trader, wherein the two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy a first size of the item and an offer command to sell a second size of the item." As described in Section IV. A. above, Harrington only shows the submission of bid commands for a user of the auction system, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 26.

In view of the foregoing, claim 26 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 26 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 27-29

As demonstrated above, claim 26 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 27-29 should also be found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 26, from which dependent claims 27-29 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 27-29 should be withdrawn.

VII. The Rejection of Claims 30-42 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejects claims 30-42 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 30

Applicants' invention, as defined by claim 30, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving a submission of an offer command from a trader to sell a first size of an item; generating a bid value for which a second size of the item is to be bought based on the submitted offer command; and submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of the trader. The two-sided market trading command comprises the offer command to sell the first size of the item and a bid command to buy the second size of the item, where the bid command is based on the bid value. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 30. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 30 defines "submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of the trader, wherein the two-sided market trading command comprises the offer command to sell the first size of the item and a bid command to buy the second size of the item." As described in Section IV. A. above, Harrington only shows the submission of bid commands for a user of the auction system, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 30.

In view of the foregoing, claim 30 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 30 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 31-42

As demonstrated above, claim 30 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 31-42 should also be found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 30, from which dependent claims 31-42 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 31-42 should be withdrawn.

VIII. The Rejections of Claims 43-54 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 43-54 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 43

Applicants' invention, as defined by amended claim 43, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving a submission of an offer command to sell a first size of an item via a first interface; generating a bid value for which a second size of an item is to be bought based on the offer command; presenting a second interface that relates to the submission of the two-sided market trading command; and submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of a trader. The two-sided market trading command comprises the offer command to sell the first size of the item and a bid command to buy the second size of the item, where the bid command is based on the bid value. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features of applicants' claim 43. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 43 defines "presenting a second interface that contains information relating to the submission of the two-sided market trading command, wherein the two-sided

market trading command comprises the offer command to sell the first size of the item and a bid command to buy the second size of the item." As described in Section V. A. above, Harrington only shows a screen relating to a bid command to buy a bond, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 43.

In addition, applicants' claim 43 defines "submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of a trader," again where "the two-sided market trading command comprises the offer command to sell the first size of the item and a bid command to buy the second size of the item." As described in Section IV. A. above, Harrington only shows the submission of bid commands for a user of the auction system, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 43.

In view of the foregoing, claim 43 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejections of claim 43 should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 44-54

As demonstrated above, claim 43 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 44-54 should also be found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 43, from which dependent claims 44-54 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejections of dependent claims 44-54 should be withdrawn.

IX. The Rejection of claims 55-58 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejects claims 55-58 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 55

Applicants' invention, as defined by claim 55, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving data related to a tradable item data display; presenting an interactive data display based at least in part on the tradable item data display; receiving a selection of an item in the interactive data display that corresponds to an offer command to sell a first size of an item; generating a bid value for which a second size of the item is to be bought based on the submitted offer command; and submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of a trader. The two-sided market trading command comprises the offer command to sell the first size of the item and a bid command to buy the second size of the item, where the bid command is based on the bid value. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 55. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 55 defines "submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of the trader, wherein the two-sided market trading command comprises the offer command to sell the first size of the item and a bid command to buy the second size of the item." As described in Section IV. A. above, Harrington only shows the submission of bid commands by a user of the auction system, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 55.

In view of the foregoing, claim 55 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 55 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 56-58

As demonstrated above, claim 55 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 56-58 should also be

found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 55, from which dependent claims 56-58 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 56-58 should be withdrawn.

X. The Rejection of Claims 59-62 Under
35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejects claims 59, 61, and 62 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington. In addition, claim 60 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harrington. The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 59

Applicants' invention, as defined by claim 59, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving a bid command from a trader to buy a first size of an item; generating an offer command to sell a second size of the item based on the bid command; generating the two-sided market trading command; receiving a confirmation command from the trader to confirm the submission of the two-sided market trading command; and submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of the trader in response to the confirmation command from the trader. The two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy a first size of the item and an offer command to sell a second size of the item. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 59. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 59 defines "generating an offer command to sell a second size of the item based on the bid command." As described in applicants' specification, "[f]or

example, if a trader enters a bid price, the trader may indicate to submit a bid and offer order for a particular item, where the offer price may be automatically generated from the bid price and the pre-set spread amount" (page 16, lines 26-30). The Examiner contends that Harrington shows the generation of an offer based on a bid command when a trader revises an offer after the original offer was insufficient, citing FIG. 12 and column 10, lines 4-21 as support. Applicants respectfully submit that the term "offer command," as used in amended independent claim 59, refers specifically to a command "to sell a . . . size of [an] item," as is commonly understood by a person of ordinary skill in the art and as used throughout the specification. In other words, a bid command, which is used to buy an item, cannot be an offer command, as specified in applicants' claim 59. Therefore, Harrington neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' amended claim 59.

In addition, applicants' claim 59 defines "generating the two-sided market trading command, wherein the two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy the first size of the item and the offer command to sell the second size of the item." The Examiner contends that Harrington shows this feature when a trader revises an offer after the original offer was insufficient, citing FIG. 12 and column 10, lines 4-21 as support. Again, the Examiner's interpretation relies on a definition of an offer as a "price named by one proposing to buy." However, applicants' claim 59, as amended, specifically defines an "offer command to sell [a] size of [an] item." Therefore, the two-sided trading command of applicants' claim 59 includes both a command to buy an item and a command to sell an item, which is neither shown nor suggested by Harrington.

Applicants' claim 59 also defines "receiving a confirmation command from the trader to confirm the submission

of the two-sided market trading command," where the two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy a first size of the item and an offer command to sell a second size of the item. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows this feature of applicants' claim 59, citing FIG. 13 as support. Again, applicants respectfully submit that Harrington only shows confirmation of a bid command, as evidenced by the options in FIG. 13 to either "Go Back" or "Submit Bid." Nowhere does Harrington show or suggest receiving a confirmation command for the submission of a two-sided market trading command, where the two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy and the offer command to sell, as defined by applicants' claim 59.

In addition, applicants' claim 59 defines "submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of a trader," where the two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy a first size of the item and an offer command to sell a second size of the item. As described in Section IV. A. above, Harrington only shows the submission of bid commands for a user of the auction system, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 59.

In view of the foregoing, claim 59 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 59 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 60-62

As demonstrated above, claim 59 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 60-62 should also be found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 59, from which dependent claims 60-62 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 60-62 should be withdrawn.

XI. The Rejection of Claims 63-66 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejects claims 63-66 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harrington. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 63

Applicants' invention, as defined by claim 63, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving a bid command from a trader to buy a first size of an item; generating an offer command to sell a second size of the item based on the bid command; generating the two-sided market trading command; presenting a second interface that contains information relating to the submission of the two-sided market trading command; requesting confirmation of the submission of the two-sided market trading command; and submitting the two-sided market trading command in response to the confirmation. The two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy a first size of the item and an offer command to sell a second size of the item. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 63 except for requesting a confirmation of the submission of an offer command, which the Examiner contends is obvious. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 63 defines "generating an offer command to sell a second size of the item based on the bid command." As described in Section X. A. above, Harrington only shows the revision of a bid command based on the rejection of an original bid, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 63.

Applicants' claim 63 defines "generating the two-sided market trading command, wherein the two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy the first size of the item and the offer command to sell the second size of the item." As described in Section X. A. above, Harrington only shows the revision of a bid command based on the rejection of an original bid, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 63.

In addition, applicants' claim 63 defines "presenting a second interface that contains information relating to the submission of the two-sided market trading command." As described in Section V. A. above, Harrington only shows a second screen containing information relating to a bid command, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 63.

Applicants' claim 63 also defines "requesting confirmation of the submission of the two-sided market trading command," where the two-sided market trading command includes a bid command to buy a first size of an item and an offer command to sell a second size of the item. The Examiner contends that Harrington describes this feature, citing FIG. 13 as support, with the exception of the confirmation of an offer command. The Examiner states that, since Harrington teaches requesting confirmation of a bid submission, "it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill to provide offer submitters with a confirmation to allow a submitter to verify the items for auction for which buyers are bidding." Applicants respectfully submit that it would not be obvious to provide a confirmation of a two-sided trading command in light of Harrington, which only describes offers from an auctioneer to sell bonds, on the one hand, and bids from users to buy bonds, on the other hand. The Examiner has not identified any motivation to submit a two-sided market

trading command that includes both a bid command to buy a first size of an item and an offer command to sell a second size of an item. Accordingly, there is no motivation to confirm a submission of such a command, and this feature of applicants' claim 63 is not obvious in view of Harrington.

Applicants' claim 63 also defines "submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of a trader," where the two-sided market trading command comprises a bid command to buy a first size of an item and an offer command to sell a second size of the item. As described in Section IV. A. above, Harrington only shows the submission of bid commands for a user of the auction system, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 63.

In view of the foregoing, claim 63 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 63 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 64-66

As demonstrated above, claim 63 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 64-66 should also be found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 63, from which dependent claims 64-66 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 64-66 should be withdrawn.

XII. The Rejection of Claims 67-70

Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejects claims 67, 69, and 70 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington. In addition, claim 68 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harrington. The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 67

Applicants' invention, as defined by claim 67, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving an offer command from a trader to sell a first size of an item; generating a bid command to buy a second size of the item based on the offer command; generating the two-sided market trading command; receiving a confirmation command from the trader; and submitting the two-sided market trading in response to the confirmation command. The two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy the second size of the item and an offer command to sell the first size of the item. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 67. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 67 defines "generating the two-sided market trading command, wherein the two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy the second size of the item and the offer command to sell the first size of the item." As described in Section X. A. above, Harrington only shows the revision of a bid command based on the rejection of an original bid, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 67.

In addition, applicants' claim 67 defines "receiving a confirmation command from the trader to confirm the submission of the two-sided market trading command," where the two-sided market trading command comprises a bid command to buy a second size of an item and an offer command to sell a first size of the item. As described in Section X. A. above, Harrington only shows receiving confirmation of a bid command to buy, and

therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 67.

Applicants' claim 67 also defines "submitting the two-sided market trading command on behalf of a trader," where the two-sided market trading command comprises a bid command to buy a second size of an item and an offer command to sell a first size of the item. As described in Section IV. A. above, Harrington only shows the submission of bid commands for a user of the auction system, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 67.

In view of the foregoing, claim 67 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 67 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 68-70

As demonstrated above, claim 67 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 68-70 should also be found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 67, from which dependent claims 68-70 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 68-70 should be withdrawn.

XIII. The Rejection of Claims 71-75 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejects claims 71-75 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harrington. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 71

Applicants' invention, as defined by claim 71, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving an offer command to sell a first size of an item via a

first trading command entry interface; generating a bid command to buy a second size of the item based on the offer command; generating the two-sided market trading command; presenting a second interface that relates to the submission of the two-sided market trading command; requesting confirmation of the submission of the two-sided market trading command; receiving the confirmation; and submitting the two-sided market trading command in response to the confirmation. The two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy the second size of the item and an offer command to sell the first size of the item. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 71 except for requesting confirmation of the submission of an offer command, which the Examiner contends is obvious. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 71 defines "generating the two-sided market trading command, wherein the two-sided market trading command comprises the bid command to buy the second size of the item and the offer command to sell the first size of the item." As described in Section X. A. above, Harrington only shows the revision of a bid command based on the rejection of an original bid, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 71.

Applicants' claim 71 also defines "presenting a second interface that relates to the submission of the two-sided market trading command." As described in Section V. A. above, Harrington only shows a second screen containing information relating to a bid command, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 71.

In addition, applicants' claim 71 defines "requesting a confirmation of the submission of the two-sided market trading command." As described in Section XI. A. above, describes only offers from an auctioneer to sell bonds and bids from users to

buy bonds. Accordingly, this feature of applicants' claim 63, which depends on the submission of a two-sided market trading command on behalf of a trader, is not obvious in view of Harrington.

Applicants' claim 71 also defines "receiving the confirmation" of the submission of the two-sided market trading command, where the two-sided market trading command comprises a bid command to buy a second size of an item and an offer command to sell a first size of the item. As described in Section X. A. above, Harrington only shows confirmation of a bid command, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 71.

In addition, applicants' claim 71 defines "submitting the two-sided market trading command in response to the confirmation on behalf of a trader," where the two-sided market trading command comprises a bid command to buy a second size of an item and an offer command to sell a first size of the item. As described in Section IV. A. above, Harrington only shows the submission of bid commands for a user of the auction system, and therefore neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 71.

In view of the foregoing, claim 71 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 71 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

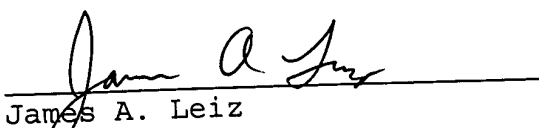
B. The Rejection of Claims 72-75

As demonstrated above, claim 71 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 72-75 should also be found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 71, from which dependent claims 72-75 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 72-75 should be withdrawn.

XI. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, claims 1-75 are in condition for allowance. This application is therefore in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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